Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme

*310. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the freedom fighter applicants are asked to produce records of imprisonment etc. before sanctioning the pension under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980.

(b) whether such pensioners were granted pension earlier by obtaining one co-prisoner certificate without any other record; and

(c) whether Government will consider granting such pension to the freedom fighters who have already submitted a co-prisoner certificate in Golden Jubilee year of Independence?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: (a) to (c) Persons, who consider themselves eligible for pension under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980, should apply in the prescribed application form duly filled in and supported by required documents as proof of claim of sufferings undergone during the freedom struggle.

Earlier, under the Freedom Fighters Pension Scheme, 1972 pension was granted to those who claimed imprisonment/detention during the freedom struggle, on production of certificates from the concerned jail authorities, District Magistrates or the State Governments. In case of non-availability of such certificates, co-prisoner certificate from a sitting MP or MLA or from an ex-MP or an ex-MLA specifying the jail period was accepted subject to fulfilment of other conditions of eligibility prescribed under the Scheme.

However, under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980, pension is granted to those who claimed imprisonment/detention during the freedom struggle, on production of the following document(s):—

Certificate from the concerned jail authority, District Magistrate or the State Government, indicating period of sentence awarded, date of admission, date of release and reasons for release. In the absence of such certificates from official records, a Non-availability of records certificate (NARC) from the concerned authorities alongwith Co-prisoners Certificate (CPC) as under:—

(i) Two Co-prisoners' Certificates from the freedom fighter pensioners who had a proven jail suffering of one year.

OR

(ii) One Co-prisoner's Certificate from a sitting/former MP or MLA specifying his jail period and that of the applicant.

In connection with the Golden Jubilee Year of Independence, the Control Government has constituted a joint Committee of Freedom Fighters and Officials to look into various problems of freedom fighters. The functions of the Joint Committee inter-alia include to review the existing procedure under the Scheme for expeditious disposal of pension cases. The Joint Committee has not yet considered this aspect and furnished its recommendations for consideration of the Government.

Supply of arms to ultras in N.E. States

*311. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
SHRI K. M. SAIFULLAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the surplus arms of Khmer Rouge have been reaching the militant groups of the North-Eastern States of India;

(b) if so, whether it has been examined as to how these arms are routed into India; and